The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was <u>not</u> written for publication and is <u>not</u> binding precedent of the Board.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte NANETTE C. JENSEN, DOUGLAS G. KEITHLEY, VIRGINIA K. CAPPS, and DAVID G. BOHAN



Application No. 09/855,208

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on April 4, 2006. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

On December 27, 2005, the examiner filed a Supplemental Examiner's Answer, which is permitted by 37 CFR § 41.43. However, the examiner must follow the guidelines set forth in training material entitled "Rules of Practice Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, Final Rule," located at the following URL: www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/bpai/fr2004/moreinfo.html

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The requirement for a Supplemental Examiner's Answer is approval by a Technology Center Director or designee.

To correct this problem, the examiner will need to vacate the Supplemental Examiner's Answer dated December 27, 2005, and file a new Supplemental Examiner's Answer with the Technology Center Director's approval.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the examiner to:

(1) vacate the Supplemental Examiner's Answer dated December 27, 2005;

(2) submit a new Supplemental Examiner's Answer with the Technology Center Director's approval;

(3) have the approved Supplemental Examiner's Answer scanned into the record;

(4) mail a copy of the approved Supplemental Examiner's Answer to appellants;

and

(5) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS

Dale M. Shaw Program and Resource Administrator (571) 272-9797

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